

TRAPPED

SCENARIO ASL TAC 48

Translated by Coastal Fortress Gaming Group



LA PINETIÈRE, 4 Km east of RONCEY, FRANCE, 29 July 1944:

Operation Cobra, started 5 days earlier, was very successful. The remnants of two Infantry Divisions (the 91st and the 243rd), paratrooper elements of Corps Meindl, and particularly the major part of 2nd SS Panzer Division "Das Reich" and of the 17th SS Panzergrenadier Division "Gotz von Berlichingen" were trapped in the so called Roncey pocket. Their only hope was to break the American lines toward the south and the southwest in order to join the German front line. Several attempts failed in the night from the 28th to the 29th. On the morning of the 29th at 0900, a particularly strong attack started in La Pinetiere, a hamlet around a crossroads. Several hundred paratroopers and SS, supported by 15 Panzers, pushed back a company of the 4th Infantry Division, placed there in protection, 1 km in front of the 78th Armored Artillery Battalion of the 2nd Armored Division. Unable to retreat anymore, the GIs, now supported by 2 M7 batteries, 4 M10 and 2 M16, blocked the German progression.

BOARD PLACEMENT:

		Hd3
11		Hd9 Hd5 Hd7
	Hd8	Hd10
17	Hd6 Hd4	Hd2

BALANCE:

✚ Replace the 8-1 Leader with a 8-0 leader in the American OB

☆ The US reinforcements enter on Game Turn 4.

VICTORY CONDITIONS: The Germans win immediately if they exit 25 VPs, among which 10 Infantry VP, along the eastern edge on/between 11GG5 and 17GG6. Prisoners do not count for exit VP purposes.

☆ SIMULTANEOUS set up	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	END
✚ GERMAN moves first									

Elements of 4th Infantry Division [ELR:4]
set up on/between hexrows M and R {SAN:3}:

6-6-7	6-6-6	8-0	7-0	4-10	8-4
2	5			2	2

Elements of 78th Armored Artillery Battalion, 195th Anti-Aircraft Weapons Battalion and of 702nd Tank Destroyer Battalion
set up on/east of hexrow S (see SSR4)

14	20	19	15	2-3-6
105	20	19	76L	2
	2			

Elements of 41st Armored Infantry Regiment
enter on Turn 5 along the east edge (see SSR5)

20	20	20	6-6-7	6-6-6	3-4-7	9-1	8-0	7-0	8-4
2	3								2

Elements of Panzergrenadier Regiment "Deutschland", 2nd SS Panzer Division "Das Reich" [ELR:4]
set up on/west of hexrow L (see SSR 4) {SAN:2} (see SSR6):

8-3-8	6-5-8	8-0	8-0	8-0	8-0	7-16	5-12	3-8	30-1	12-4
3	10					2	2	4		2

Elements of 6th Paratrooper Regiment and of 2nd SS Panzer Regiment
enter on Turn 1 along the west edge (see SSR6)

5-4-8	8-0	8-0	3-8	3-8	15	13	13	9-1
8				3	3	2	3	

Scenario Design: Jean-Luc Béchenec and Pascal Guet '93

SSR:

- EC are moderate with no wind at start. Kindling is NA.
- Place the following overlays: **Hd3** in 11U1-U2, **Hd5** in 11U10-V9, **Hd9** in 11X7-Y7, **Hd7** in 11Z9-AA10, **Hd8** in 17I1-I2, **Hd6** in 17M5-M4, **Hd4** in 17P7-Q8, **Hd10** in 17Y6-Y5 and **Hd2** in 17CC8-CC9. Hills do not exist, all terrain there have their base Level at Level 0. Hedges and Walls are Bocage (B9.5). The opening in the Bocage hex-sides are Breaches (B9.541).
- Setup is simultaneous. Place a screen between the 2 players.
- The M7 HMC may not setup in Wood hexes. Their CA should be directed toward the west. Use British Priest(a) counters for the missing M7 HMC. The two 2-3-6 HS in the American OB may setup HIP, with all SWs stacked with them, in concealment terrain.
- The M3(MMG) inherent squad is a 6-6-7 (see US vehicle note 30).
- The German 8-3-8/3-3-8 are assault engineers and SS (their broken morale is raised by one). The German AFVs that should be recalled after a MA Disabled (only), stay in play (are not recalled) and count in the German VPs if they successfully exit.

AFTERMATH: The fight was incredibly violent. The M16s fired on the German infantry, decimating it. All the M7 105mm guns fired direct hits and the losses quickly increased in the German troops. During 30 minutes, the fight outcome stayed uncertain, but the American resources were not unlimited and the losses also increased among them. The defense begun to bend under the German repeated assaults, that desperately wanted to break the encirclement. When the conclusion seemed near, elements of the 41st Armored Infantry Regiment joined the fray and saved the American defense from collapsing. The bulk of the Germans was repelled in the pocket, leaving on the field 126 KIA and 9 tank wrecks. Only a few groups succeeded in escaping. For their part, the Americans did not communicate their losses on this action. But they had to have been at least as high as the Germans.